Denial of visas to NRIs

*56. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission has sought a report from his Ministry on allegations that the Ministry had black-listed some NRIs to deny them visas to visit India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The National Human Rights Commission has sought a report about the total number of Sikh NRIs black listed by Ministry of Home Affairs and details regarding the review of this list.

Foreigners, including persons of Indian origin holding foreign citizenship, who have come to adverse notice and whose presence/ entry in the country is not considered desirable are placed in a negative list. They cannot obtain a visa without prior clearance of Indian Government. This list is reviewed at regular intervals to consider deletion/ retention of names therefrom. Last such review was done on 31.03.2003. There were 489 names on the list in 1998-99 and after the last review, the number now stands at 189 as on date.

Security to senior citizens in Delhi

*57. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has drawn up a plan for ensuring the security and welfare of the senior citizens living in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) since when the scheme is in operation and the number of senior citizens covered by the scheme so far; and

(d) the specific help and/or services extended to the senior citizens under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) The scheme launched by Delhi Police for security and welfare of senior citizens living in Delhi has been in operation since 1990. It provides for conducting survey of elderly people living alone; verification of antecedents of their domestic servants; and periodic visits to their residences by the Beat Staff, Station House Officers and Division Officers concerned. The number of senior citizens covered under this scheme as on 15th July, 2003 was 10,557.

Hydro power production

*58. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has launched an initiative for adding 50,000 MW hydro-electric power from 162 schemes in 16 States; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Yes, Sir Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the "50,000 MW Hydro-electric Initiative" on 24.5.2003. This initiative envisages preparation of Preliminary Feasibility Reports (PFRs) for 162 Hydroelectric Schemes having an aggregate installed capacity of 50,650 MW located in 16 States.

(b) The PFRs will provide information on Hydro-electric Schemes which are yet to be developed and enable their prioritization for further action for implementation. The PFRs would also provide useful information to prospective developers for taking up detailed Survey and Investigation and for the formulation of Detailed Project Reports. These PFRs would thus facilitate the development of the hydro-electric projects in the country in order of viability/attractiveness. This is considered essential to generate a shelf of projects which could be taken up during 11th Plan, 12th Plan periods and beyond.